

CHICAGO – U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) and the Center for Disability & Elder Law (CDEL), along with other national, state and community organizations, are leading a massive effort to highlight the importance of advance healthcare decision-making—an effort that has culminated in the formal designation of April 16 as National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD).

As part of this national effort to raise awareness about the importance of advanced directives, Congressman Quigley welcomed seniors to the Portage Park Senior Satellite Senior Center for an informational session on advanced directives. On April 5th a CDEL attorney explained the importance of communicating end of life wishes to family and friends to a group of over twenty-five seniors.

On **April 17, 2012 at 10:00am** the Center for Disability & Elder Law will return to the Portage Park Satellite Senior Center to execute advanced directives. Volunteer attorneys from the Chicago office of the law firm Dykema will provide representation to seniors who wish to complete the documents. This representation is free of charge and the Dykema attorneys will ensure that the advanced directives are completed in accordance with Illinois law.

“As a result of National Healthcare Decisions Day, and the support of Congressman Quigley and Dykema, many more people in our community can understand the importance of advanced directives and successfully execute the documents,” said Thomas Wendt, Legal Director at the Center for Disability & Elder Law. “Seniors will be able to leave the April 17th workshop with the peace of mind that if they are ever unable to make decisions themselves, a surrogate is in place who has the legal authority to make healthcare decisions as the senior would wish.”

Any questions regarding the program should be directed to the Office of Congressman Quigley at (773) 267-5926.

For more information about National Healthcare Decision Day, please visit www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org

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